

BIRKDALE

NORTHSCHOOL

Respect Integrity Perseverance Empathy

Manaaki Whakakotahi Manawanui Aroha

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Monday 22nd November 2021

Newsletter

Term 4

Poari Pānui / Board announcement

Kia ora tātou

We hope you are all well and managing the continual changes relating to Covid as best you can.

The board would like to acknowledge and thank our school's senior leadership team and all school staff for their continued efforts and energy to provide all that they can to support our learners and their whānau over some very challenging times. Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou.

The board is very pleased to welcome Alan Curtis on to the school board. Alan comes with a wealth of knowledge and experience on school boards and was co-opted to provide support with school policies and procedures. Alan will be a member of the board until the next triennial board elections in September 2022.

Also, the board would like to remind our community that we still have two parent vacancies on the board. So, if you are interested in helping to govern our school, then please get your nomination in by noon, 26th November.

For various reasons, especially under the current Covid restrictions, the school board has had to hold some urgent meetings to make decisions so that the school can continue to function. The dates of these meetings are included below; the minutes of the 15th November meeting will be approved and made available to the public after our next board meeting on the 9th December.

- Special board meeting – 8th November; in-committee, to approve leave for a board member.
- Special board meeting – 15th November; to adopt school management's proposal for the restart of schooling in term 4.

That is it for now. Please remember to be patient and kind to each other. There are more changes to navigate coming up so we must role model to our children our school values of manaakitanga (care and respect), whakakotahi (unity), manawanui (tolerance and patience), and aroha (kindness and compassion).

Take care and stay well.

Ngā manaakitanga

The Birkdale North School Board

Principal's voice:

Tēnā koutou, talofa, bonjour, malo e lelei, kia orana and hello,

As the children arrived at school after such a long time away it lightened my heart, there was anxiousness, shyness, excitement and even though many wore masks I could see smiles and delight at returning! How lucky are we to have your children in our lives!

It is hard to believe we are very close to the end of the year and once again we find ourselves in a very strange place! This has been an incredibly hard year for us all. Hopefully next year will bring a more settled year of learning for our tamariki with opportunities and experiences to explore, develop and learn!

For me personally it has been an exciting year for my growth and development, I was fortunate to be given the opportunity to work with The Springboard Trust. The Strategic Leadership for Principals Programme (SLPP) brings New Zealand principals together with strategic experts, leaders in the business world, to develop leadership and to support clear, insightful planning for schools. This has been so beneficial as strategic leadership is a pivotal element for improved school performance. Over a series of workshops spanning 10 months, SLPP explored the core elements of strategic leadership. This has aided so much in working through our school charter for the next three years.

Things will look a little different next year.

Being a small school comes with its challenges! And when we have a school with many elements it becomes even more so. With zoning now in the mix we have had some difficult choices to make. Next year will look a little different but there is some great professional development happening that I hope will excite you as much as it does me.

We will have 7 classes next year:

Room 5 - year 5 and 6

Room 6 - year 4, 5 and 6

Room 7 - year 3 and 4

Room 8 (EDN) - year 3 (3 children), 4, 5 and 6

Room 9 (EDN) - year 1, 2 and 3

Room 10 - year 1 and 2

Room 11 - year 2 and 3

We will make sure children know what class they will be in before the end of the year.

With only a few children in Ngā Muka unfortunately it is not sustainable to continue as a whanau class but we want to make sure that as a whole school we are moving forward in terms of Tikanga Māori and Te reo Māori.

Our PD is focussing on Tikanga Māori and Te Reo Māori for the whole school. We are committed as a school and have booked Whakamānawatia te Reo Māori Programme. Whakamānawatia te reo Māori is all about supporting our kura with long term teacher development and a sustainable te ao Māori programme that progresses tamariki and kaiako through their learning year by year.

The programme has three elements which incorporate learning for our teachers, learning for our students and learning for our community if you are interested or would like to take part:

- **Reo Kura** (school) consists of weekly online 30 minute lessons covering te reo Māori, tikanga and te ao Māori.

- **Reo Kaiako** (teachers) is professional development for teachers which includes ongoing weekly support.
- **Reo Whānau** (family) is ongoing weekly learning sessions for families of our tamariki in our kura (school)

A thank you to staff who are moving on or leaving:

We would like to acknowledge our staff who will be leaving us at the end of the term:

- Anne-Sophie Carlon has been with us for two years. Anne-Sophie came from Lile in France for a two year secondment as part of her professional development. She has very much become part of our school and quickly developed relationships with teachers and students. It is time for Anne-Sophie to return to France but we feel fortunate to have had her work with us for the past two years. Bon Voyage AnSo, we will miss you very much!
- Annette Smith has been part of BNS for 29 years! Annette has worked part time as part of the admin team for many years, she also takes care of the library. Annette is responsible for all the lovely book displays in our library and does a lot of the unseen work that no one realises is actually happening. Having a long enforced break with lockdown has made her realise it is time to spend more time with her grandchildren in Queenstown and have the flexibility of doing whatever she wants when she wants. She is looking forward to spending some time with her husband, Malcolm. We wish you all the best Annette, enjoy being a lady of leisure!
- Natasha Stones has been with BNS for 6 months. She joined us at the beginning of term 3 working with the tamariki in room 10 and 11. Thank you Natasha for your flexibility for the past two terms and taking on the role of one of our teachers for our essential bubble children.
- Paul Anstis started in term 3 to teach in room 6 and room 5 in term 4. Again Covid changed our plans drastically and we thank Paul for holding the fort with online learning for the class.
- Whaea Whaiora joined us this term to teach on Mondays in room 5. Thank you Whaea for your support in online learning for our tamariki.

And not leaving us completely but changing her role:

- Mrs Metcalfe has taught part time in room 8 for the past 4 years. She has loved working with the children and has enjoyed sharing the class with Ania. You will still see Mrs Metcalfe at BNS as she is now covering all the Classroom release days for our teachers.

Teacher Only Days

As you are aware we originally had several days booked for Teacher Only days in term 3 and 4. Unfortunately they had to be cancelled due to the lock down. We have re organised those days for next year. These days were allocated in an Accord between the Ministry of Education and NZEI (the teachers union) and must be used by the end of May 2022. The new dates are as follows:

- Tuesday 1st and Wednesday 2nd February 2022
- Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th April 2022
- Tuesday 3rd and Wednesday 4th May 2022

I would like to finish by thanking you all for your support and understanding throughout the last few months. Your kind words make a difference and go a long way. Kia kaha.
Jan.

Important dates

09 December 2021	BOT meeting 6pm
13 December 2021	Reports home
13 December 2021	Year 6 leavers - TBC
15 December 2021	End of term 4
01 February 2022	Teacher only day - school closed
02 February 2022	Teacheronly day - school closed
03 February 2022	Student back to school for Term 1 2022
07 February 2022	Waitangi Day observance - school closed
12 April 2022	Students last day for Term 1
13 April 2022	Teacher only day - school closed
14 April 2022	Teacher only day - school closed
15 April 2022	Good Friday
18 April 2022	Easter Monday
25 April 2022	ANZAC day

COMMUNITY NOTICES

If you are in Birkdale North School Zone - enrol now for 2022

Please click on the website link for more information on the zone area and a detailed map.

<https://www.birkdalenorth.school.nz/enrolment/>

With the introduction earlier this year by the Ministry of Education of an Enrolment Scheme and zone area for Birkdale North School, the enrolment process has changed. Whanau are now encouraged to enrol their children at their local school.

If you are living in the Birkdale North School zone your children have automatic right of entry under the scheme. Enrol your child as early as possible, this helps us with our classroom planning for 2022.

In Zone Enrolment procedure

Check that you live within the list of in zone addresses. Follow the link below to the enrolment page on the website to complete the online enrolment form.

<https://www.birkdalenorth.school.nz/enrolment/>

Alternatively, just send us an email to office@birkdalenorth.school.nz and we will send out the enrolment pack for you to complete and return.

NEXT CHAPTER PARENTING offering Individual, or group, PARENTING SESSIONS via Zoom.

Eight one hourly sessions, weekly at a time convenient to you, available evenings.

Topics covered include Communication, Empathy, Setting Limits, Quality Time, Consequences, Choices, Redirection, Pick your battles with your child, Problem Behaviour, Praise vs Acknowledgement, Time In vs Time Out, The Pause, Erickson's Stages of Growth, Personality Types and how it affects your children. WINZ funding assistance where eligible.

Website: www.nextchapterparenting.co.nz

Contact: brigid@nextchapterparenting.co.nz